



SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA

Bread, Trash and Photography Top List of Exhibits at COPIA for Early 2006

Food and art lovers will find three new exhibits to check out early this year at COPIA, the American Center for Wine, Food & the Arts, in Napa. “Out of the Earth: Adventurous Winery Architecture” features over thirty photographs by Erhard Pfeiffer of exceptional and sometimes adventurous wine structures in major wine regions throughout the world. The exhibit runs January 6 to April 24 and features recent works by architects such as Santiago Calatrava. “What’s Rising? Decorative Breads by Ciril Hitz” is on display from January 27 to May 1 and features bread sculptures by internationally recognized Ciril Hitz, who sees no division between making art and baking bread. “Trashformations” runs January 20 to May 8 and features work by 112 artists who have created amusing works of art out of trash and give new meaning to reduce-reuse-recycle. Contact: COPIA, (888) 51-COPIA (26742) or (707) 259-1600, info@copia.org, www.copia.org.

Chaminade Resort and Spa Renovation Complete

In Santa Cruz, the Chaminade Resort and Spa has completed its \$5 million renovation to result in their newly designed 156 guest rooms, including 44 suites, new contemporary Spanish furnishings, granite bathrooms and innovative interior design. The resort has an interesting history—starting with its namesake Father William Joseph Chaminade, who founded the Marianist Society in the 1700s. In 1930, Chaminade Boys High School opened at the site and during WWII, Chaminade became a center for training priests in the Marianist order, until the 1970s when it became a religious retreat. After being acquired in 1979, it was converted into a hotel and conference facility and today stands as a modern resort, ready to accommodate conference needs or a leisure traveler.

Chaminade Resort and Spa also recently started to offer full-day and half-day wine tours, including transportation, a narrated wine tour, tasting at three wineries in the Santa Cruz Mountains and a gourmet picnic lunch in a custom personalized picnic basket. Contact: Chaminade Resort and Spa, (800) 283-6569 or (831) 475-5600, chaminadeinfo@benchmarkmanagement.com, www.chaminade.com.

de Young Museum

Now in its new state-of-the-art facility in its original location at Golden Gate Park, San Francisco’s de Young Museum has a number of intriguing exhibits planned. From February 25 to June 25, the new de Young’s Connections Gallery program will feature works by John Bankson. The program is conceived to enable visitors to make connections through strong, visual experiences. Working in drawing and painting, Bankson uses museum objects as visual iconography, creating a fantasy world out of cross-cultural juxtapositions. In this way, he allows museum visitors to reimagine their worlds by mobilizing the desires that the diverse art objects arouse. Also, from March 18 to June 18, “International Arts and Crafts: From William Morris to Frank Lloyd Wright”

will trace the development of the arts and crafts movement from its flourishing in Britain in the 1880s to its interpretation and development in America, continental Europe and Japan. This will be the first exhibition ever to explore arts and crafts internationally. The exhibition includes 300 masterworks in all media including furniture, textiles, metalwork, ceramics and glass. It will also include photography, paintings, prints, sculptures and architecture. Contact: de Young Museum, (415) 750-3614, www.thinker.org.

Exploratorium Commemorates 1906 Earthquake

San Francisco marks the centennial of the legendary 1906 earthquake in April, and the Exploratorium will feature a month-long program, "Magnitude X: Quake Science and Survival" to commemorate it. The program includes an exciting interactive demonstration of real rescue dogs, a largescale Jell-O model of San Francisco, an international map showing earthquakes as they occur throughout the world, exhibits and demonstrations about the physics of waves, seismic action and appearances by geologists, first-responders, survival kit experts and historians. Contact: The Exploratorium, (415) EXP-LORE (397-5673), www.exploratorium.edu.

Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley Opens

Located at the gateway to Palo Alto and just five minutes from Stanford University, the Four Seasons Hotel recently opened and offers service and style in the heart of the high-tech capital of the world. The ten-story building houses 200 rooms and suites with floor-to-ceiling windows that provide dramatic views of the Santa Cruz Mountains and San Francisco Bay, 42½ plasma televisions with HDTV programming, WiFi Internet, expansive desk/work space and spacious marble bathrooms. Other features include the roof top lap pool, fitness centre and spa, and Quattro Restaurant and Bar. Contact: Four Seasons Hotel Silicon Valley, (650) 566-1200, www.fourseasons.com/siliconvalley.

JetBlue Announces New Daily Nonstop to Fort Lauderdale from Oakland

JetBlue now operates 16 daily flights to five nonstop destinations from Oakland, adding Fort Lauderdale to the existing list of Boston, Long Beach, New York (JFK) and Washington, DC (Dulles). The flight departs from Oakland International Airport (OAK) at 11:45 p.m. and arrives the next day at 8:05 a.m. to Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport (FLL). Floridians traveling to Oakland depart FLL at 7:25 p.m. and arrive to OAK at 10:50 p.m. Contact: JetBlue, (800) JETBLUE, www.jetblue.com or Oakland International Airport, (510) 563-3300, www.oaklandairport.com.

Total Solar Eclipse Webcast

On March 29, a total solar eclipse will occur when the new moon moves directly between the sun and the earth. The moon's shadow will fall on the eastern tip of Brazil, speed eastward across the Atlantic, through northern Africa, across the Mediterranean, and into Turkey, where an Exploratorium team will be waiting. This team will transmit a live eclipse Webcast, as well as a telescope-only feed from a Roman amphitheater in Side, Turkey. Weather permitting, spectators can witness the spectacular moment of totality, when the moon completely blocks the sun, and the sun's glorious corona (the outer part of the sun's atmosphere) is revealed. The program, led by Exploratorium physicist Paul Doherty and NASA scientists, will feature live views of the eclipse, an introduction to

Side, Turkey, updates on leading-edge solar research and may include images of the International Space Station. The Exploratorium will be open all night from 9 p.m. on March 28 to 6 a.m. on March 29 and invites the public to join them for this awe-inspiring event. Contact: Exploratorium, (415) 561-0308, www.exploratorium.edu.